# MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 APRIL 1983

## PLO AFFAIRS

Reaction to Jordanian Statement, Diplomacy -- Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin said King Husayn's decision not to join the political negotiations did not surprise Israel but did surprise the United States, according to Jerusalem radio. He added that the United States may still have "illusions" about the PLO but Israel is certain that the only way to promote peace is through Camp David and the autonomy plan. Speaking to reporters, Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir averred that the Reagan initiative is "dead" and criticized Washington for failing to see that a peace between Israel and an Arab state that is contingent upon an Arab consensus is "impossible," THE JERUSALEM POST reported. Shamir described the achievement of peace between Israel and an Arab state through the "supervision of the PLO" as an "utter absurdity." He added that the path to peace in the Middle East must be "state by state, step by step, in an evolutionary process."

Three PLO factions issued statements reported by AFP and Radio Monte Carlo attacking the Jordanian Cabinet statement. The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) said the statement exposed the Jordanian Government's aggressive stand toward the Palestinian people and belongs to the "policy of extortion and imposition of pressures on the PLO." The PFLP-General Command described the statement as a pretext for "discharging" a new move planned by the United States and added that the statement contained an "overt maneuver to bypass the PLO." The Palestine Popular Struggle Front asserted that the indications of a new Jordanian stand are a "prelude" for possible U.S.-Israeli aggression against Syria.

In other developments PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left San'a' following a 3-day visit. In a predeparture statement he affirmed the need for continuing the constructive fraternal dialogue with Jordan, San'a' radio reported. Earlier, 'Arafat met in San'a' with the Soviet ambassador to the YAR and conveyed a message to the Soviet leadership on the latest developments in the Middle East, according to San'a' Voice of Palestine radio. Radio Monte Carlo subsequently revealed that 'Arafat left San'a' for Damascus to chair a PLO Executive Committee meeting while QNA reported that a "high-level" Soviet envoy will arrive in Damascus this week with a message for the PLO leaders. The Soviet envoy is expected to meet with PLO Political Department head Faruq Qaddumi, who left Baghdad for Damascus via Amman, according to QNA and Radio Monte Carlo.

Reaction to As-Sartawi Assassination -- A PLO Executive Committee statement reported by Aden Voice of Palestine radio asserted that the assassination of PLO official 'Isam as-Sartawi was perpetrated by the Israeli intelligence service, Mosad. Meanwhile, the PFLP-General Command declared that it approved of As-Sartawi's assassination, according to AFP. A PFLP-General Command spokesman described As-Sartawi's fate as that of "traitors who plot against their country and their people," AFP added. Earlier, a Riyadh radio commentary declared that all indications point to Mosad and Prime Minister Begin's office as having planned this "heinous crime." The radio added that As-Sartawi's assassination affirms the need for the international community to stop oppression and aggression in the Middle East caused by the "actions of Israel."

In another development Yasir 'Arafat appointed an Israeli citizen who is known for his anti-Zionist activity to replace As-Sartawi as PLO representative to the Socialist International conference in Portugal, Jerusalem radio reported citing an announcement by the PLO office in Paris. The PLO office explained that 'Arafat made this decision in order not to permit the forces hostile to dialogue from among the Socialist International to take advantage of As-Sartawi's death, the radio added.

## Pym Tour

British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym met with Abu Dhabi heir apparent Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, who told him that Britain should play a more positive role to achieve Middle East peace by influencing the United States to put pressure on Israel, WAKH reported. In another meeting with UAE officials, Pym said the recent Jordanian statement is "not necessarily the end of the story" and disclosed that a British official may shortly hold talks with PLO official Faruq Qaddumi, WAKH noted.

## Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iranian forces captured more than 150 square kilometers of the Iran-Iraq border area north of Faqih on 10-11 April and killed or wounded over 5,000 Iraqi soldiers, according to a military communique broadcast by Tehran radio. The Iranians advanced further early on 12 April, destroying Iraqi infantry and armored brigades and an Iraqi post 10 km inside Iraq, Tehran radio subsequently reported. An Iraqi communique broadcast by Baghdad radio on 11 April affirmed that Iraq has destroyed the Iranian offensive and said the battlefield is strewn with dead Iranians and destroyed enemy equipment. The Iraqi military spokesman said 3,200 Iranians died in the fighting, INA reported. While the Iraqi communique said the Iraqi Air Force retained complete air superiority and struck successfully at Iranian positions, IRNA claimed Iranian fighters had engaged Iraqi planes and provided support for Iran's Ground Forces.

## Lebanon

Tripartite Negotiations -- Delegates at the 11 April tripartite talks in Netanya reviewed outstanding Israeli-Lebanese differences and decided henceforth to hold four meetings weekly, the Israeli delegation spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio. According to Jerusalem radio, the main disputed points concern the status of Major Sa'd Haddad, joint patrols in southern Lebanon, and the role of UNIFIL. Noting that presidential envoy Philip Habib would shortly begin another round of talks with Israeli leaders in Jerusalem, the radio said Israeli Prime Minister Begin has rejected President Amin al-Jumayyil's compromise proposal that Maj Haddad be appointed deputy commander of southern Lebanon.

Salim's Jordan Visit -- Before flying to Amman on 12 April, Foreign Minister Elie Salim said he will hold talks with King Husayn on Lebanon and "current Arab topics," according to remarks broadcast by the Voice of Lebanon.

Military Situation -- Israeli and Syrian forces in the Al-Biqa' area exchanged artillery fire on 12 April, according to reports by Voice of Lebanon radio and the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. Earlier, the IDF spokesman denied an AP report of an IDF-Syrian clash on 10 April, Jerusalem radio reported. In another development the Voice of Lebanon asserted that the Soviet Union recently provided Syria with new SAM-11's.

## Egypt

During President Husni Mubarak's current visit to Pakistan, he said Egypt supports the fraternal people of Afghanistan in their "adherence" to the freedom to choose their own government without foreign interference, MENA reported citing Mubarak's remarks during a dinner in Rawalpindi. He noted that discussions with Pakistani officials have revealed an identity of views.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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*South Asia*

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On 13 April 1983 FBIS will start the automated production of the Middle East & Africa and the South Asia DAILY REPORTS. The books will be printed in double-column format employing modern typographical features which permit increased wordage per page and flexibility in presentation. The automated production of the remaining six DAILY REPORTS will follow in 1984.

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KESHTMAND ADDRESSES FINANCIAL SEMINAR 11 APRIL

LD112055 Kabul BAKHTAR in Pashto and Dari 1245 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] Kabul, 11 Apr, (BAKHTAR) -- The following is the text of a statement by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, delivered at a financial staff seminar which opened today at the Ministry of Finance in connection with resolutions and decisions of the PDPA Central Committee 11th Plenum.

Comrades and dear friends: Some time ago, the 11th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee, which concentrated on economic questions, was convened. It is not necessary to explain the importance of the major questions discussed at the plenum. Undoubtedly, the resolutions of the Central Committee 11th Plenum played a major role in solving theoretical and practical questions of the country's economic life and the implementation of these resolutions will be a great step forward toward the growth of our national economy.

In implementing the policy of the party and state in relation to economic questions, the financial organs of the country have a major role to play. This action of the DRA Ministry of Finance in convening the present seminar of the country's financial staff is a good step. Unresolved essential questions will be discussed in this seminar and measures will be adopted to resolve questions raised during the 11th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee in connection with financial affairs.

It is good that representatives of the finance departments of all the country's provinces are present at the seminar. The accomplishment of our present tasks depends to a great extent on their efforts and activities.

Comrades, this is the first time that the DRA Ministry of Finance has convened such a meeting since the new development stage of the April Revolution. Allow me to wish you success in the work of the seminar and in resolving the questions that the party and state have assigned you.

Comrades, the economic strategy of the party and government at the present phase is the planned growth of the country's production forces, which are gradually changing the economy and eliminating the elements of the old order which are obstacles to development, thereby enhancing the people's living standards and consolidating defense power and security in the country.

The PDPA, led by the Central Committee headed by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, is directing the activities of the party and government toward eliminating economic backwardness and encouraging the growth of national economy and improvement of the standard of material and cultural life of the people. Let it suffice to recall that in the 3 years since the victory of the new development stage of the April Revolution some 63 billion afghanis has been spent on improving the national economy, on social and cultural services, and on raising people's living standards.

According to the resolutions of the PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Government, the payment of workers and low-paid staff has been raised during this period. The daily allocation for food of all staff and workers has been doubled in the state account and some essential medicaments have been distributed free of charge. Some 2 billion afghanis per annum have been allocated for this purpose. A considerable number of peasants have been exempted from paying land taxes and some 5 billion afghanis have been loaned to cooperatives and farmers to improve agriculture.

The growth of the economy, social and cultural improvements, and strengthening the defense capability and security of the country depend directly on the country's financial situation. The economic situation in its turn depends on the rate of growth of production forces and the financial policy adopted by the party and government. Under present conditions, the PDPA and the DRA attach great importance to questions of financial policy and the growth of the country's financial and banking system. The party's financial policy is reflected in the action program of the PDPA, in the resolutions of the PDPA Central Committee 11th Plenum, and in other fundamental documents.

One of the major tasks of the party and state, as it has been outlined in the PDPA action program, is the growth of the country's national economy. The aim is that financial policy, credit and tariffs, and budget allocation policy should assist the growth of the national economy, build up the strength of the national economy, contribute to the expansion and growth of state and cooperative sectors, and enliven the private sector, as well as help the correct and logical utilization of budget affairs and the strict observance of state financial discipline, strengthen the struggle for savings, and prevent waste and dissipation.

The present characteristics of the DRA's financial system are determined by the national and democratic transformations carried out in the country and by the new duties the government will undertake. The country's financial situation is also seriously affected by political and economic problems which have resulted from the imperialists' undeclared war on the DRA and from the internal reactionary plots.

It should be mentioned that the counterrevolutionary bands sent from abroad have destroyed 50 percent of the country's schools, more than 50 percent of our hospitals, 14 percent of the state's transportation vehicles, 75 percent of all communication lines, and a number of hydroelectric and thermal electric stations. About 24 billion afghanis in damage has been done to the country. This is 1/2 the total amount set for developing the country's economy during the 20 years before the April Revolution.

The country's financial situation currently is difficult. This situation is primarily due to the lack of increase in national income and to the decrease in the level of domestic products, both of which result in a decrease in the volume of domestic resources. The increase in government expenditures, particularly for (?eliminating) the country's defense and security needs, is one of the effective factors in this situation. In addition to these factors, the (?defective) pricing system also affects the country's financial situation.

There are a number of urgent problems which ought to be solved and for which considerable financial resources are needed. Our national economy currently is facing problems due to the shortage of energy resources.

However, we are planning to construct hydroelectric stations and to purchase gas and diesel turbines. Transportation is another of the country's current problems. At the moment, the country's roads do not meet our needs and transportation vehicles are not being used effectively and continuously. Irrigation problems in agriculture are also important. Irrigating 2.5 million hectares of land is a serious and primary need to provide cotton for textile factories and sugar beets for sugar factories.

Other areas of the national economy have problems that demand considerable attention. Our state's present financial policy is concentrating on creating an orderly financial and banking system and on gradually consolidating and utilizing it in order to change society. The successful realization of this change depends on solving financial problems. The financial policy also is being directed so that maximum use is made of domestic resources for collecting revenues and so that financial assistance rendered for economic renewal and economic measures will help to unify our society's working class, peasants, and other groups. It should be pointed out that in reaching for this goal, we are assisted by the great help of the great Soviet Union.

As was emphasized in the 11th PDPA Central Committee Plenum, one of the most important tasks in stabilizing the country's economic situation is creating a single budgetary system. The municipalities' budgets are presently independent and are not included in the state budget. However, while assessing the state budget in March 1983, the Council of Ministers also studied and approved municipal budgets as a first step toward creating a single budgetary system.

On the other hand, there are other fundamental tasks before us. In future, along with the implementation of the local organs law, financial foundations for local organs should be created, that is to say, each local administrative unit should have its own independent budget.

Various nationalities, tribes, and ethnic groups live in the DRA. The state budget plays a major role in resolving the national question for the purpose of eliminating economic and cultural backwardness of the nationalities, tribes, and ethnic groups and in maintaining their equal rights. The planned distribution of financial reserves through the budgetary system helps enhance the standard of life and develop the culture of all nationalities, tribes, and ethnic groups.

Comrades, the DRA state budget for the year ending 20 March 1983 was, despite problems, realized. These problems emanated in the first place from a reduction in attaining a number of major resources of income and from increases in expenditure for meeting the needs of the national economy and of the country's defense and security. Despite this, the state budget for last year, according to estimated information, has been balanced. However, despite all efforts, it must be pointed out that the DRA budget for 1983-84 will not balance, and thus serious measures will be taken to secure a balance by the end of that period.

The state budget mainly is composed of collecting incomes from state property and services, customs taxes, and state enterprises. Part of the state income also is secured by attracting a proportionally small part of people's incomes.

However, the people should know that by paying taxes they take part in eliminating the general needs of the state, and the money they transfer through taxes to the budget is paid back to them through social services. It is worth mentioning that the taxes to be paid during 1983-84 by the people through land and salary taxes amounts to 340 million afghani, whereas the amount which the state spends for education and training, public health, and social services total 2-3 billion afghani, or in other words, 4-9 times what they pay.

The PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Government emphasize that the main part of the budget revenue should be covered by taxes and financial payments from local units of the country's financial organs. The collection of land and other taxes must be actively speeded up. It must be said with regret that this process has not yet been fulfilled as required.

The result is that while in the year beginning 21 March 1978, 280 million afghanis were provided for the budget from the collection of land taxes, this amount dropped to 16 million afghanis in the year beginning 21 March 1981. There are a lot of similar examples with regard to taxes and financial payments.

The financial organs should take necessary measures toward attracting more revenue for the state budget and should seek possibilities for increasing revenue.

Observing the principle of saving in the spending of state allocations is also an important duty. In this way, extra allocations can be used for eliminating other important needs. Attracting new income sources and activating the affairs of financial organs, which are of great importance to our state, first of all depend on the leading authorities of the Ministry of Finance and responsible financial organs of the provinces who are participating in the work of this seminar.

I hope that the financial organs of the country will take effective steps toward the implementation of the resolutions of the 11th PDPA Central Committee Plenum. To you comrades and dear friends, I wish success in this, your important task.

## KARACHI CITES CLASHES IN QONDUZ, FARYAB PROVINCES

BK080839 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 8 Apr 83

[Text] There are reports of clashes between mujahidin and the Soviet-Karmal forces in the Qonduz and Faryab Provinces of Afghanistan. The mujahidin damaged five tanks of the Soviet-Karmal forces in (Karya Karlok) and (Dashtachi), the reports said. At least 15 Soviet and Karmal soldiers are reported to have been killed. Meanwhile, many houses were damaged and a number of civilians wounded as a result of the shelling by Soviet tanks. The Afghan mujahidin are reported to have killed an Afghan brigadier and his security guards in (Memran).

BNP CONVENTION ELECTS NEW PARTY CHAIRMAN

BK101240 Dhaka BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 3 Apr 83 p 1

[By a staff correspondent]

[Text] Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) convention on Saturday elected a new National Executive Committee with Mr Shamsul Huda Chowdhury as chairman and Prof. Dr. Abdul Matin as secretary-general.

The convention has "dissolved" the National Executive Committee headed by former President Justice Abdus Sattar and party Secretary-General Dr. Badruddoza Chowdhury. The party chairman and secretary-general have also been "removed" for what the conventionists termed, their gross inefficiency and indifference to party politics. Mr Shamsul Huda Chowdhury claimed that 80 percent of the party members and office bearers have extended their support to the convention and were with them.

Justice T.H. Khan, a former information minister, presided over the convention.

Mr Shamsul Huda Chowdhury later in the evening told the BANGLADESH OBSERVER that a total of 15 former ministers, 62 MPs and 95 presidents and secretaries of the BNP districts attended the Saturday's convention.

Prominent among those present at the convention included Mr. Abdur Rahman Biswas, Mr. Reazuddin Ahmed Bhola Mia, Dr. Amina Rahman, Mr Mansur Ali, Principal Hamida Ali, Mr. Abdul Khaleque, Mr Jahangir Mohammad Adel, Mr. Shahidullah, Mr. Shamsul Huq, Mr. Khalequzzaman Dudu, Mr. Shawkat Hossain Nilu, Mr. Mustanjil Huq Khijir, Mr. Ruhul Amin Hawladar, Prof. Abdus Salam, Mr Farhad Ahmed Kanchan, Mr. Mominuddin Ahmed, Mr. Abdul Hamid, Mrs. Kamrunnahar Jafar, Mr. Sunil Gupta and Mr. Mahbubul Huq Dolan.

He refuted the claim of the organisers of Friday's Executive Committee meeting as regards the attendance in that meeting at Nawab Yusuf Market. He said only 42 ex-MPs and 50 presidents and secretaries of the BNP district committees were present at that meeting.

The portrait of Shaheed [Martyr] President Ziaur Rahman was placed on the dais.

The convention was held at Beauty cinema hall owned by former MP Mr Abdul Khaleque at Mirpur.

Various slogans like "Down with the Baksalites. Countless Zia will be born out of the blood of one Ziaur Rahman. We don't support the BNP of Sattar and Badruddoza Chowdhury. March ahead Huda and Matin, we are with you and Shaheed Zia Zindabad" rented the air.

Mr Shamsul Huda Chowdhury in his speech further said that it was easier to do politics by a party in power but it is difficult to do politics remaining out of it. It requires more courage and dedication to do politics remaining out of power he said. The people of this country have accepted the 19-point political programme given by Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman and "we won't move an inch from it" he asserted.

He termed the BNP headed by Justice Sattar and Dr. Chowdhury as "a cultural and non-political organisation."

Mr Shamsul Huda Chowdhury in his speech pinpointed the failures of the party chairman and general secretary in dealing with political crisis. He said it was the political responsibility of the party to take up the reins of leadership at this hour of crisis.

Dilating on the emergence of BNP, he said the 19-point programme which reflected the dreams of the common men had been endorsed by the people on several occasions. "Supremacy of politics shall prevail" he emphasised and went on to add that political field was not for recreational purposes or for gaining personal benefits.

Criticising the party secretary Mr Chowdhury maintained that he did not only stay aloof from his associates and party workers but even declined to sign the first political statement made to the press after the imposition of martial law. He wondered how the party chairman Justice Sattar could blame his own Cabinet of being corrupt. Regretting the involvement of Begum Zia in politics Mr. Chowdhury said that a personality like her's held in high esteem should not take part in active politics.

As the wife of late President Ziaur Rahman she is respected and adored by all but her involvement in direct politics would make her a partisan, he added. Mr. Chowdhury warned Begum Zia that the people who had flocked around her comprised members of a vested quarter and they were simply utilising her image to gain benefits out of it. These were the same recalcitrant members of the party abhorred by the late president. He called upon Begum Zia to stay away from the vicious circle and from politics and uphold her respected image.

"We do not want to see her as a controversial figure," Mr Chowdhury emphasised. Boasting of support will not suffice, Mr Chowdhury said and went on to add, "we want unity in politics." He said the party leaders will hold talks with other political parties regarding the political and economic situation of the country and the ground has already been laid for it.

Whenever there was any question related to the party, its chairman and general secretary had always expressed their ignorance about everything Mr Chowdhury said.

Terming the other BNP as microscopic minority, Mr. Chowdhury said it was not possible for the minority to expel the majority and as such they (Huda) will expel the inefficient and inactive party chairman, general secretary, and others who did join them. He also moved a no-confidence motion against them and called upon the participants for giving a new life to the BNP unitedly. They had the support of 80/85 percent of the total strength, Mr. Chowdhury claimed.

He called upon Begum Zia to join them and remain a person of strong integrity.

Mr Mansur Ali, a former textile minister, in his address narrated a detailed picture of the process through which BNP emerged as a political party imbibed with nationalistic spirit in spite of different political affiliations prior to the formation of the party.

He dwelt on the incidents in which Justice Sattar was on several occasions deprived his due respect as party chairman while all the importance were endowed upon Begum Zia. He called upon all to materialise the 19-point programme and ensure a healthy society through concerted efforts. Mr. Ali bitterly criticised the party general secretary for his failures experienced by all during the last one year.

Mr. Nazuddin Ahmed said BNP was formed by President Ziaur Rahman with a view to insuring economic emancipation of the common mass.

Late President Zia was able to unite everybody irrespective of party affiliation in a common platform and that was of nationalism. But unfortunately some of the top-notchers of the party had failed to discharge their duties with honesty and sincerity. Those party members will now stand expelled from the party, he announced.

Criticising the general secretary of the party Mr. Ahmed said that he (general secretary) had always expressed his ignorance on the party activities during the past one year. The party secretary did not know anything about the party office nor did he know anything about the transfer of ownership of the party newspaper THE DAINIK DESH Mr. Ahmed claimed. He said it was a matter of great regret that placed in such a position the secretary should be so unconcerned about these and furthermore about the welfare or whereabouts of party workers.

Begum Quamrunnahar Zafar dilated on the non-cooperation of the party general secretary and her indifference towards party workers during the last one year. She believed in politics of unity and called upon all to unite under the new leadership in order to materialise the 19-point programme.

The meeting over, they went to the mazar [mausoleum] of late President Ziaur Rahman and held a milad [gathering] and offered fateha [prayers].

MALAYSIAN PRIME MINISTER TO VISIT 18 APRIL

BK111603 Dhaka BSS in English 1141 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] Dhaka, April 11 (BSS) -- Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed will arrive here April 18 on a three-day visit to Bangladesh.

During the visit, first being made by any Malaysian head of government to Bangladesh, Dr Mahathir will hold talks with President of the Council of Ministers Lt Gen H.M. Ershad on bilateral cooperation, regional and global issues of common concern and interest.

Besides premier's wife Dr Siti Hasmah, Dr Mahathir will be accompanied by Foreign Minister Haji Mohamed Ghaz Ali Shafie.

UK'S QUEEN ELIZABETH PLANS VISIT IN NOVEMBER

BK111721 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] Queen Elizabeth of Britain and the duke of Edinburgh will pay a 4-day state visit to Bangladesh beginning on 14 November at the invitation of President Assanuddin Chowdhury. A Foreign Office spokesman announced in Dhaka today that during her stay the queen will meet President Assanuddin Chowdhury and the chief martial law administrator, Lieutenant General H.M. Ershad.

The queen earlier visited Dhaka in 1961.

DELHI GOVERNOR MEETING STRESSES COOPERATION

Gandhi on Assam, Punjab

BK110416 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] The prime minister has said maintaining the unity and integrity of the country is the paramount responsibility of the government. This is a problem which is above party and above everything else. Mrs Gandhi was addressing the conference of governors which ended in New Delhi yesterday. About the Assam and Punjab situation, she said the problems in both states are political. In Assam, the agitation at the beginning was not communal but political and to some extent economic, but later it took a communal overtone. Mrs Gandhi hoped that the state government would be able to deal with the situation in a more effective way.

On Punjab, the prime minister said the question is how far any political group can be allowed to go on pursuing its demands. Many of the demands, particularly those of the religious nature, have been considered. The demand for a common legislation on gurdwaras [Sikh worship places] is under examination in consultation with the state government. She said on the matter of river water distribution other affected states are also to be consulted.

She referred to the Seventh Nonaligned Summit and said it was held to promote certain policies relevent to economic progress of developing countries and greater South-South cooperation.

The prime minister mentioned several areas where the governors could take active interest like safeguarding monuments, social [word indistinct], preservation of wildlife, environment, and prevention of deforestation. Mrs Gandhi said many voluntary agencies are working in these fields and the governors should also keep in touch with them and coordinate activities. She asked them to keep an eye on equitable distribution of drought or flood relief and on the promotion of welfare or scheduled castes and tribes.

The governors and lieutenant governors gave a resume of vaious activities in their states and union territories. Vice President Hidayatullah and the ministers of home, finance and defense also took part in the discussions.

Winding up the discussions, Zail Singh said that the deliberations have amply revealed that the governors can play a useful and positive role in discharging their functions.

Addressing the conference, Hidayatullah referred to the students' unrest in universities and emphasized the need to promote better student-teacher relationship. He suggested changes in the education system to make it job-oriented. Home Minister P.C. Sethi explained in detail the situation in Wassam and Punjab. He said violence in Assam was not triggered off during the elections but much earlier. Victims belong to all ethnic, language, and religious groups. The police outposts in different areas have been strengthened.

Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee said despite the unprecedented drought government has been able to maintain a fair amount of stability in the price front and achieved a marginal improvement in the balance of payments position.

Defense Minister Venkataraman observed that the security environment calls for vigilance, particularly in view of the induction of sophisticated weapons in the neighborhood.

## Zail Singh Speaks

BK091019 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Apr 83

[Text] The president has called upon the governors and lieutenant governors to keep a special watch on the communal situation and advise the state governments on preventive measures. Presiding over a 2-day conference of governors at Rashtrapati Bhavan [President House] this morning, Giani Zail Singh assured the governors that the center would extend all assistance to the states in this regard. The president said the center has been very much concerned over the maintenance of peace and communal harmony and the state governments have been asked to streamline their administrative machinery to meet the challenge of communal and antinational forces. Giani Zail Singh said: For dealing with such forces, a strong public opinion has to be created by associating all shades of public opinion. He expressed satisfaction that the center has been associating all political parties for dealing with issues concerning the nation's unity and integrity.

In his address, the president referred to wide-ranging subjects relating to the law and order situation in the country in general, and in Assam and Punjab in particular, and the economic scene and pinpointed specific areas where the governors and lieutenant governors could play a role.

Giani Zail Singh said he had recently suggested the appointment of chief ministers as a topic for discussion in the conference so that clear-cut guidelines could be available to the governors. He said the need for this has been felt when a single party does not command majority and conflicting claims are made by different parties to the rights of forming the governments.

The president said the administrative infrastructure in regard to the public distribution system needs to be strengthened and the machinery for supervision needs to be tightened so that irregularities in the system are avoided.

The president said in our efforts to build the society free from wants there is need to pay more attention to those living below the poverty line. Migration of rural labors to urban areas can be discouraged by promoting local industries to cater to their special needs. He emphasized the need for speeding up employment opportunities in the rural areas. He also pointed out that the benefits of planning had not percolated down to those people in the rural areas, particularly farmers and artisans, in a desired measure. Still, there is a need to identify schemes which can provide direct benefit to those people. He called for proper implementation of the various schemes under the special component plan for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and the tribal people. He said the governors should give special attention to these schemes.

Referring to the two international events -- the ninth ASIAD and the nonaligned summit -- Giani Zail Singh said it is a matter of gratification for us that Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi will steer the Nonaligned Movement for the next 3 years.

The governors conference is being attended by the prime minister and her senior Cabinet colleagues. It is the first conference since Giani Zail Singh assumed office. The last conference was held 2 years ago.

## AFP: INDIAN CP DELEGATION TO VISIT PRC IN APRIL

OW112020 Hong Kong AFP in English 1827 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] New Delhi, April 11 (AFP) -- A three-member delegation of the Communist Party of India, Marxist (CPI-M), led by its general secretary, Elamkulathu Manakkal

Sankaran Namboodiripad, will visit China later this month to discuss the question of re-establishing the party-to-party ties with Chinese.

M. Basavapunnaiah, one of the members on the proposed delegation, told a press conference here today that their discussions in Beijing would help clarify each other's point of view on major international issues also. However, he said they had no plan to discuss the Sino-Indian border dispute as his party believed in non-interference in state-to-state relations.

Harkishen Singh Surjeet is the other member on the delegation. He and Mr Basavapunnaiah are members of the policy-making Politburo of the CPI-M -- which has been independent of both Moscow and Beijing in policy.

The formal ties between the CPI-M and the Chinese Communist Party were snapped in the late sixties as the latter appeared to be more in approval of the newly emerged extremist Communists in India, generally known as the Naxalites. The armed uprisal of the farm labour in 1967 at Naxalbari in West Bengal State (capital Calcutta) marked the extremist movements appearance.

CPI-M is now ruling two Indian states in alliance with several other left parties -- West Bengal and Tripura, both in the northeast.

AFP: BIHAR STATE MAGISTRATE KILLED BY BOMB

OW111940 Hong Kong AFP in English 1858 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] New Delhi, April 11 (AFP) -- A surprise bomb attack killed a senior official in the eastern Bihar State administration today, according to a report. Gopalganj District Magistrate Mahesh (?Prasad) Narain Sharma died in the incident. [Word indistinct] said [name indistinct] Choudhury was arrested in connection with the bombing, according to the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI).

Bihar Chief Minister (head of the administration) Jagannath Mishra said in Patna, the state capital, that the incident was "very serious" and was the first of its kind to occur in Bihar, PTI reported.

Mr Sharma apparently was leaving his office at Gopalganj, headquarters of the district of same name, about 120 km (75 miles) north of Patna and close to the border with Nepal, when someone hurled a bomb at him.

No other details were available, the PTI said.

NUCLEAR RESEARCH SITE PROPOSED FOR INDORE

BK101039 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Apr 83

[Text] A new research center for advanced technology in controlled thermonuclear fusion and related areas is proposed to be set up at Indore. This has been disclosed in the annual report of the Department of Atomic Energy. It says the work has also begun to set up a medium-energy heavy ion accelerator at the Tata Institute. The first unit of the Madras atomic power project is now ready to receive heavy water, the report adds.

REPORTAGE ON MUBARAK, DELEGATION VISIT TO PAKISTAN

11 April Arrival

BK111752 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Excerpts] The Egyptian President Husni Mubarak was given a very enthusiastic welcome when he arrived in Islamabad this afternoon on a 2-day state visit to Pakistan. His arrival was heralded by a 21-gun salute and welcome slogans by the people. President Mohammad Ziaul Haq received him at the airport. The two heads of state embraced each other and warmly shook hands.

The Egyptian president is accompanied among others by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan 'Ali, the Minister of State for Agriculture Yusuf Amin Wali, the Minister for Investment Affairs and International Cooperation Dr Wajih, and others. Earlier, as soon as the distinguished guest's plane entered Pakistan's territory, Pakistan Air Force Mirage planes provided escort. President and Begum Mohammad Ziaul Haq are hosting a banquet in honor of President and Madam Husni Mubarak in the president's house tonight. Formal talks between the two heads of state will be held in Rawalpindi tomorrow morning.

Zia on Meeting's Goals

NC111500 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1335 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] Islamabad, 11 Apr (MENA) -- Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has described President Husni Mubarak's visit to Pakistan as that of a close friend.

In an exclusive statement to MENA, the Pakistani president said: We are greatly honored to welcome President Mubarak today. Although we hoped that the visit would be longer, it is a good occasion for a meeting between friends. We hope to be able to express our sincere sentiments toward President Mubarak during his short stay here.

Regarding the topics he will give special attention to during his discussions with President Mubarak, President Ziaul Haq said: There are many questions of common interest to our countries including good bilateral relations. We hope that President Mubarak will benefit us with his experience in dealing with the Middle East situation in view of the position Egypt occupies vis-a-vis the Middle East problem. It is in the heart of the problem.

Further on Goals

BK111315 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Excerpts] The president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, has said he will have talks with President Husni Mubarak of Egypt on bilateral matters, international issues of common interest, and the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question. Addressing a news conference in Quetta today, he expressed the hope that good results would be produced as a result of the talks with the Egyptian president who arrives in Islamabad this afternoon.

About the prospects of Pakistan's candidature for the post of secretary general of Organization of Islamic Conference, the president expressed the hope that other member countries, including Bangladesh, would extend their support to Pakistan and demonstrate solidarity of the Muslim ummah [community].

Replying to a question, he said Pakistan desires to have good-neighborly relations with India based on equal footing and mutual respect. He had left this impression in India during his visit to New Delhi for the nonaligned summit and had also brought back good impression. He hoped that further steps to be taken in this direction would produce good results. Replying to a question about the future political structure of the country the president reiterated that it would be announced on or before 14 August this year.

Talks With Ziaul Haq

NC120951 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0928 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Islamabad, 12 Apr (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Pakistan President Mohammad Ziaul Haq held a separate meeting this morning at the headquarters of the general military governor secretariat in Rawalpindi. After some time, the members of delegations of both countries joined the expanded 2-hour meeting. Following the meeting, Mubarak held a press conference attended by correspondents of Pakistani and international news agencies and newspapers.

Mubarak Press Conference

NC121125 Cairo MENA in English 1110 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Islamabad, April 12 (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak said he discussed during his short visit here a number of world issues including the Middle East cause, the Iraq-Iran war and the Afghanistan question. He added in a press conference held here today, that bilateral relations and means of boosting them in the various domains were also discussed.

President Mubarak expressed Egypt's readiness to offer aid to the Afghan refugees. He added that Pakistan, in spite of its limited potentials, also offers aid to these refugees. President Mubarak said in a press conference: "It is incumbent upon us as Islamic states to help our brothers whose country was invaded."

Resolutions of conferences and world organisations are not obligatory to all parties, they only pave the way for reaching solutions which serve world peace.

President Mubarak was commenting on Egypt's assessment of resolutions adopted by the New Delhi summit regarding the Palestinian and Afghanistan issues. President Mubarak cited the example of the problems of Palestine and Afghanistan which were referred to the United Nations several times without reaching solutions so far.

President Mubarak referred to the Fes summit resolutions and President Reagan's peace plan as bases for solving the Middle East cause.

"If a linkage is agreed upon between the Palestinians and King Husayn to form one delegation [to] the negotiations with the Israelis, this would help President Reagan to step up efforts for stopping the erection of settlements in the West Bank and and Gaza, President Mubarak said.

"The situation will be further complicated in case no progress was achieved or even started before October, the time of the campaigning of U.S. presidential elections", he said.

The present status quo encourages the Israelis to build settlements which would be later difficult to be dismantled and replaced by the Palestinians, President Mubarak noted.

President Mubarak said,"We were able to avert religious fanatics in Egypt". He also reiterated the role of Al-Azhar in explaining Islamic thought and guiding Islamic groups so as youth might not be mislead.

President Mubarak said his talks with President Ziaul Haq dealt with world issues and bilateral relations. He hoped that cooperation would be intensified between the two peoples, who belong to the Third World states.

President Mubarak said there is still hope that an agreement would be reached between King Husayn of Jordan and the PLO.

Asked to elaborate on the commitment pledged by late leader Answar as-Sadat for giving weapons to the Afghanistan resistance movement, President Mubarak declined to comment noting that he does not give statements on his deeds, but leaves them to speak for themselves.

## Zia Banquet Speech

BK120348 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Excerpt] The president hosted a banquet in honor of the Egyptian President at the presidential palace in Islamabad last night. Speaking on the occasion, both leaders fully supported the cause of the people of Afghanistan and emphasized the need for a political solution of the issue without any outside intervention or pressure. Both leaders also supported the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and liberation of all occupied Arab territories as the only solution to the Middle East problem.

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq said no peace would be possible in the Middle East unless Israel vacates all occupied Arab territories. Deploring the massacre of Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatila camps in Lebanon, he said the whole world condemned this barbaric act.

On the Afghanistan problem, the president reiterated Pakistan's stand for a political solution of the problem. He expressed hopes that the latest efforts by the UN secretary general's personal representative will bear fruit. He thanked Egypt for support on the Afghanistan issue which, he said, is a strength for Pakistan.

Referring to the Iran-Iraq war, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq said repeated efforts had been made to end the war between the two countries, but it is a matter of great regret that the war is continuing. He said Pakistan wants this fratricidal war to end so that both Islamic nations can use their resources for the welfare of their people and the strength of the Islamic community.

On bilateral relations. the president said the two countries have identified many areas of cooperation including agriculture, steel, economy, and information as well as promotion of the Arabic language in Pakistan.

Mubarak Dinner Speech

NC111852 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1710 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] Rawalpindi, 11 Apr (MENA) -- Pakistani President Ziaul Haq today hosted a dinner banquet in honor of President Musni Mubarak and his wife. The banquet was held at the Presidential Palace in Rawalpindi and it was attended by members of the delegation accompanying President Mubarak and senior Pakistani officials. President Husni Mubarak delivered a speech at the dinner banquet. The following is the text of the speech:

"And praise to God, the Lord and cherisher of the world" [Koranic verse] and prayers and peace on the last of the prophets.

Your Excellency, dear brother and friend, President Ziaul Haq; dear brothers: God's peace, mercy, and blessings be with you.

Permit me to express to you profound thanks and gratitude for the warm reception we have been accorded in your loyal country and for the sincere sentiments shown to (?our people) who reciprocate these feelings and sentiments and look forward to more cooperation and dealings with you in the various fields.

The spiritual and cultural ties that join us are firm because they are the work of the almighty creator and the result of a unity of thought and creed, great cultural rapprochement, similar interests, and common understanding of the mission of man on this planet as the successor of God on His land and the maker of glory and civilization.

A few days ago we celebrated the millennium anniversary of the holy Al-Azhar, the bearer of the torch of Islam and the carrier of the flag of knowledge throughout the world. You were with us on this occasion which flows with (?sacred) feelings and sentiments. Iqbal the great was with us with his purity, sincere talks, and devotion in the service of Islam and its causes. The first group of the Ulema of jurisprudence and prophetic tradition who enriched the Islamic library with their writings and enlightened thoughts were also with us.

Our outlook for solidarity among the sons of the one nation is based on sincerity with oneself and on a keenness that the slogans that are raised are a sincere reflection of the reality this nation lives, the events it experiences, and the policy it follows so that there should be no gap between the reality of the stands and their image or between the declared stands and this reality and in order that there should be objective criteria to differentiate between what is right and wrong and between what is true and false.

From this premise, the Arab people in Egypt stood very firmly and solidly with the right of the fraternal Palestinian people to determine their future and liberate their land. They did not hesitate to sacrifice themselves and their wealth and they devoted a large part of their efforts in the international arena to serve the cause of the Palestinian people and patronize their issues. From this premise also, we invited the Palestinian leadership to respond to the current peace efforts and to coordinate plans with Jordan in order to confront Israel's defiance of peace and seize this golden opportunity to achieve real tangible progress in the occupied territory before this opportunity loses a large amount of its impetus and turns into another missed opportunity. Therefore, we are now watching with much attention and hope the results of the current contacts.

On the other side, we support the Lebanese people in their stand to end the Israeli occupation and eliminate its consequences and enable the legitimate leadership to exercise its responsibilities and rights without foreign interference so that Lebanon may return to the path of building and reconstruction. For these same reasons, we appeal to our brothers in Iran and Iraq to stop the bloodshed and end the war and destruction because the continuation of the war will stir up enmity between brothers of the same creed and interests. It will also shake stability in the whole area and create an atmosphere of anxiety and uncertainty about the future. Nobody can benefit from such conditions which will inevitably produce bad results and regrettable effects.

Likewise, we stand alongside the fraternal people of Afghanistan in their adherence to their freedom to choose their own government and political and economic systems without foreign interference or dictates from abroad.

Dear brothers: The discussions that have taken place between us have revealed the identity of views on many issues because we establish our policy on clear and unambigious bases, because we are guided by objective principles and considerations and abide by loyalty to truth.

We follow with admiration and appreciation the efforts which dear friend President Ziaul Haq is exerting for the sake of the Islamic questions or to reconcile and close views among friendly parties in implementation of the teachings of our orthodox religion and traditions inherited from our forefathers.

We will continue to strengthen the roots of friendship and cooperation between the two faternal countries and peoples in the various fields in order that we may establish a good model and an example, to be followed, of solidarity and interaction among the Islamic peoples who belong to the Third World and who believe in the principles of nonalignment so that we may struggle together for the establishment of a new international order that will achieve more security, equality, and justice.

Permit me to ask you to stand up and salute President Ziaul Haq, all the present brothers, all members of the fraternal Pakistani people, and Egyptian-Pakistani friendship.

God's peace, mercy, and blessings be with you.

12 April Departure

NC120947 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0925 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Islamabad, 12 Apr (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, his wife, and the delegation accompanying him left Islamabad at noon today Pakistan time en route to Cairo at the end of 2-day visit to Pakistan.

ZIA VIEWS GULF OIL SLICK, AFGHAN REFUGEES

BK110641 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that according to reports received so far there is no threat posed to Pakistan's coastal areas by the oil slick in the Persian Gulf. He was addressing a news conference in Quetta this morning.

He said a team of experts from Karachi University has been sent to Pasni and Gwadar in the Makran coast to assess the situation. The president said Pakistan has also offered technical assistance to other countries in this connection. He expressed the hope that the threat to other countries in region can be averted through mutual consultations and the spirit of understanding.

Answering a question about Afghanistan, the president said it is an international problem and Pakistan is trying to settle it politically through the UN secretary general and within the framework of the four principles. He said the Afghan refugees in Pakistan have been kept fully informed about the progress made in indirect negotiations. The United Nations will consult with the Afghan refugees on modalities of their return to their homes in dignity, honor, and safety. As long as they are in Pakistan we will continue to provide them shelter and assistance, he said.

## IRAN DETAINS TRAWLERS, ARRESTS FISHERMEN

GF091210 Karachi DAWN in English 5 Apr 83 p 1

[Text] Jiwani, April 4, -- Iranian authorities have detained ten Pakistani trawlers and arrested 14 fishermen on the charge of illegal fishing in Iranian territorial waters.

According to sources here, the Iranians arrested 12 Pakistani trawlers and their crew but released two of them and sent back a majority of the fishermen on board these trawlers. However they kept in custody the captains of the arrested trawlers.

The sources said Pakistani authorities have approached the Iranian Government for the release of the trawlers and their crew.

Meanwhile thirteen foreign fishing vessels entered Pakistani territorial waters near Pasni and poached for five hours. They fled from the area when Pakistani naval aircraft and Coast Guard searched the area. Baluchistan Fisheries Department authorities at Pasni have informed the authorities about the poaching by foreign trawlers.

## BRIEFS

DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR PRC -- The eight-member Pakistan delegation led by the additional commissioner, northern areas, left Gilgit for Xinjiang today. The delegation will stay in Xinjiang for a couple of days and will discuss with Chinese officials the details of arrangements for flow of civil traffic through Khunjerab Pass. Radio Pakistan's Gilgit representative says with the finalization of these arrangements, it is expected that border trade between Pakistan and China will receive further impetus. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 9 Apr 83 BK]

COMMUNIQUES REPORT ON WAL FAJR OPERATION

Communique No 6

LD111235 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1106 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Joint communique No 6 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran and central headquarters of Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Excerpts] At 2130 last night, in the course of the first phase of the Wal Fajr operation which was mounted under the command of the Khatam ol-Anbiya base, the center of the joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, and which is aimed at destroying the forces of the aggressive enemy and at liberating part of the border strip north of the Faqih region, Islam's self-sacrificing and dedicated combatants succeeded in dealing heavy and substantial blows to the forces of the Iraqi Zionist regime.

During the course of these successful operations, Islam's forces, comprising the warriors of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the self-sacrificing forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and its mobilization members, succeeded, by their onslaught against enemy positions, in overcoming with courage and steadfastness numerous obstacles, created because of the Zionist enemy's tremendous fear of confronting the valiant and faithful forces of Islam and which are a result of the unreserved aid given to the Zionist regime ruling in Iraq by the criminal superpowers, and in liberating a substantial part of the border area west of 'Eyn-e Khosh after 31 months of occupation.

These successful operations were backed by heavy, coordinated, and intensive artillery fire by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps on enemy positions. The barrage was so intense that the aggressive enemy was totally paralyzed and unable to redeploy.

During these operations, more than 3,000 enemy personnel were killed and wounded.

During these successful operations, the forces of Islam succeeded in liberating a number of heights in the frontier zone of (Hamrayn) including the strategic heights 112, 145, and 143, a number of villages on the banks of [name indistinct] river and a border post at Pichangizi.

During these operations, a large amount of the aggressor's equipment was set on fire and destroyed.

The combatants of Islam, by relying on the divine's infinite might and in the belief that these considerable victories are a result of God's grand favor, under the auspices of the prayers of the hezbollah nation and under the command of the commander in chief of the forces, His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, will continue to defend their Islamic homeland until annihilation of the aggressor Zionist regime ruling Iraq and the implementation of the conditions laid down by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran; central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

Communique No 7

LD111739 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Joint communique No 7 of Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Heroic Islamic nation, martyr-nurturing Iranian nation: In continuation of the victorious Wal Fajr operations -- the first stage of which started at 2130 last night, with the code words O Allah, O Allah, O Allah, under the command of Khatam ol-Anbiya base, headquarters for the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran -- the Islamic fighters succeeded in liberating part of the border strip in the north of the Faqih region and in bringing a number of important, strategic heights, including heights numbers 112, 143, and 145 in the (Hamrayn) border region, a number of villages on the banks of the Doveyrich River, and a Pichangizi border post under their complete control. They raised the proud banner of the Islamic Republic of Iran over these regions.

In these victorious operations, more than 150 sq km have been occupied by the forces of the Koran. During the early hours of these operations, the victorious and self-sacrificing forces of Islam, composed of the heroic personnel of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the guards and mobilization units of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, with the untiring cooperation of the brothers from the reconstruction crusade, succeeded in overcoming minefields having a span of 500 meters; a number of canals, each with a width of 8 meters; and different types of barbed wire -- some booby-trapped -- during the operation. After passing these obstacles, they succeeded in reaching the lines of the aggressive, Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi forces.

In addition to destroying large quantities of enemy armored and mechanized equipment, they succeeded in killing or wounding more than 4,500 enemy forces, including a number of commanders of the forces of the Zionist Saddam. The heroic forces of Islam succeeded in destroying a major part of the 419th and 501st Infantry Brigades and the 51st and 60th Armored Brigades of Iraq, as well as capturing more than 350 enemy personnel and seizing a considerable war booty.

Further details of the victorious operations of the forces of Islam, which have been carried out under the special favors of the vengeful God and under the command of the beloved leader of the Islamic Revolution, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, Imam Khomeyni, later will be brought to the notice of the martyr-nurturing nation. Victory comes only from God.

[Signed] Central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps; Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Communique No 8

GF120826 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Joint communique No 8 of Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. There is no power and no strength except from God.

Go forth heroes of the Islamic forces. Go forth heroes of the army of the Koran. Go forth marchers of light and faith in battles against infidelity and aberration. The lions of our advancing Islamic forces with the help of God, go forth on the way of the dear martyrs of the Islamic Revolution to snatch the occupied territories of our Islamic country from the claws of international arrogant agents and their foster son the dirty Zionist Saddam. Let the banners of our beloved Islam fly over our country.

O our heroic Muslim nation, O our valiant Iranian people: Your sons in the monotheist army continue to launch the first stage of the victorious Wal Fajr operation that began with the code word "O Allah, O Allah, O Allah" under the command of the headquarters of Khatam ol-Anbiya, may peace and God's blessings be upon him -- the command headquarters of the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic.

At dawn today, they launched a new series in the operation on the border road north of the Faqih region to wipe out the aggressor Iraqi Zionist Ba'thist forces and succeeded in dealing devastating blows to the tumbling Saddam 'Aflaq forces; they are continuing their advance and penetrating the enemy's position.

During this victorious operation, our heroes in the Islamic forces were up to now able to surmount all barriers and obstacles and destroy the 108th, 419th, and 501st Iraqi Infantry Brigades and the 12th, 51st, and 60th Armored Brigades.

During their advance this morning, our Islamic forces were able to cordon off enemy headquarters between the Band-e Bozorgan Mountains, 10 km inside the enemy position, and kill all the personnel of this headquarters.

Our Islamic forces, which include the brothers of the Revolution Guard Corps, mobilized units of the revolution guard, and heroes of the Armed Forces, also were able to confront enemy tanks, which desperately attempted to regain liberated strategic areas, and inflicted heavy losses on them.

With this, the casualties in the Saddamist ranks during the first stage of the victorious Wal Fajr operation totaled 5,000 killed or wounded.

CORRESPONDENT DESCRIBES WAL FAJR BATTLE SCENE

GF120858 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] We draw the attention of the dear listeners to the report by the war correspondent of the Voice and Vision of the Republic of Iran on the continuation of the Wal Fajr operation by the Islamic warriors.

[Begin recording] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The battle between the defending forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Saddamist invaders in the Wal Fajr operational theater, north of the Faqih region, for the purpose of liberating occupied areas of our country and forcing out the occupationist forces which was started at 1110 pm Sunday night, 10 April, is continuing in the region.

The advance of the defenders of the Islamic Republic has continued in the past 24 hours. The roar of artillery until the time of this dispatch has not stopped even for a second.

In continuing the battle to liberate the occupied areas and the new offensive of the defenders of the Islamic Republic, at 0400 this morning, important height No 165, in the north of Faqih was liberated. The forces of the Islamic Republic, which have been able to liberate 150 km of the operational theater, last night and this morning have centralized their new position in this area. Now the Pichangizi post and heights No 112, 143, 145, and 165 in the operational theater are in the hands of the Islamic forces and the invading Iraqi forces, with their major 108th, 119th, 501st Infantry Brigades and 12th, 51st, and 60th Armored Brigades, have been destroyed; they have approximately 5,000 dead or wounded.

Our forces by repulsing 18 counterattacks of the enemy and by repulsing land attack, artillery fire, and air raids are endeavoring to liberate more sections of the occupied areas of our dear Islamic country.

This is Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Wal Fajr operational theater. [end recording]

IRAQI 'FINAL CONVULSIVE EFFORTS' EXAMINED

LD121008 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0750 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] The defeated 'Aflaq party, having been driven from the occupied regions after 31 months of aggression and destruction by the Islamic Army, continues to shell our border towns and villages from beyond our borders with massive attacks and long-range artillery to realize the ominous U.S. objectives. This shelling by the Ba'thist criminals, which is continued day and night, is indicative of the depth of U.S. hatred for our Islamic Revolution and our martyr-nurturing people at a time when a doomed regime is making its final convulsive efforts.

These repeated crimes, however, increase the heavy (?responsibility) shouldered by the Islamic combatants in defending the Islamic land and innocent Iranian people and make them more determined to punish the inhuman and antireligious aggressors. Moreover, these crimes clearly expose the bogus nature of Saddam's peace propaganda and show how disgraceful the so-called human rights organizations are which, while remaining silent about Saddam's atrocities, continue to strengthen and defend aggressors. The entire people of the world must realize that the Islamic Republic of Iran will continue to defend its rights with all its might. If the pro-'Aflaq Saddam continues to shed the blood of the innocent people of the Islamic homeland with his Russian and American weapons, the Islamic combatants too have the right to destroy the emplacements of the murderous artillery and missiles deep inside Iraq in order to defend themselves and avenge the deaths of their own martyrs.

It would seem to be fate that, despite all the lies, provocations, designs, and diabolical propaganda, Saddam's criminal nature should be so openly exposed to the people of the world that everyone, especially the Persian Gulf nations, is now praying for his speedy annihilation. The crime committed by Saddam in striking at Iranian oil wells has culminated in excruciating problems for all the peoples of the region, even those regimes that used to help him in his aggression. Consequently, everyone is realizing that this destructive and murderous Saddamist artillery, which is, in fact, American artillery, must be silenced.

Therefore, God willing, the mighty Islamic army will destroy this murderous artillery and its owners in order to defend the Muslim nations of the region.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,277

LD111756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Communique No 1,277 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Following the valuable successes achieved during the first stage of the Wal Fajr operations in liberating another part of the border regions of the Islamic homeland, the victorious forces of Islam are now stationed in the liberated areas and are controlling enemy movements from their new defensive positions. Our artillery units, by opening fire over enemy positions, have deprived the Ba'thist mercenaries of any movement.

In the western operation zones, the heroic fighters of Islam, like the rest of their victorious and proud brothers, are, with a firm resolve, engaged in the destruction of the enemy.

Exchanges of fire continued yesterday in most of the western fronts. It was most intense in the Sumar region where one enemy truck and a number of trenches were set on fire and destroyed.

During exchanges of fire in the Marivan area, the fighters of Islam fired on positions on the other side of the border, destroying six trenches of the forces of Saddam, killing or wounding their personnel.

Yesterday, in the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational zones, the fighting units stationed on the banks of the Arvand Rud opened fire on enemy positions and concentrations on the other side of the river, destroying five enemy trenches and foxholes.

The criminal mercenaries of Saddam yesterday continued to bring Abadan under their long-range artillery fire; 10 houses and shops were destroyed, 2 compatriots were martyred, and 7 others wounded.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

FOREIGN MINISTER DEPARTS FOR SYRIA, COMMENTS

LD121232 Tehran IRNA in English 1048 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Tehran, April 12 (IRNA) -- Foreign affairs minister, 'Ali Akbar Velayati, left Tehran for Damascus today to hold talks with senior Syrian authorities. In this trip he is accompanied by the Foreign Affairs Ministry director for Asia and Africa, Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani.

In an interview with IRNA prior to his departure, Velayati said that during his visit, would present a letter of President 'Ali Khamene'i to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and would also talk with senior Syrian officials on plots of world oppressors and Zionists against Muslim nations particularly people of Lebanon, Palestine and Syria. He further added that he would put the Syrian officials in the current of recent victories of the Islamic combatants in their fight against the Iraqi Ba'thist forces.

Commenting on the oil slick in Persian Gulf waters, he said that the Iraqi regime has confessed its attack on Iran's Nowruz oil field and this action of the Iraqi regime was "a treachery and contrary to 1949 resolution of the United Nations," he added. Under the U.N. resolution, two hostile countries could not launch any action damage of which will be inflicted on other countries.

However, Velayati added, the Iraqi regime being aware of the consequences of hitting Iran's oil field, has done so and contaminated waters of the Persian Gulf states. Furthermore, the Iraqi regime has violated principles of the Kuwait Convention, which was formed in 1978 with the intention of protecting environment and marine life of the Persian Gulf states. Member countries of the convention have agreed that Iraq has violated the charter of the convention.

As for the results of the last week session of the convention, the Iranian foreign minister said that the Iraqi delegation completely isolated and was under pressure of the world public opinion and members of the convention. [sentence as received] The session was postponed because of the excuse of the Iraqi team for lacking the necessary authority from their government. "We hope that in the next session to open Wednesday, the Iraqi delegation will attend with full authority," he said.

Velayati told IRNA that the Iranian delegation to the convention would consist of the officials of the Ministries of Oil, Foreign Affairs and also the organisation for protection of the environment.

As for supplying fresh water for Persian Gulf states which was suggested by Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, Velayati said that his ministry has officially informed its readiness to the Persian Gulf states to provide them with fresh water which was welcomed by them. In this connection, ships with capacities of 8 and 40 thousand tons of fresh water were ready to sail towards the Persian Gulf states.

At the end, he said that the recently concluded session of Group 77 in Argentina, assured another success for the Islamic Republic of Iran, because Iraq had requested to host the next session of the group which was opposed by Iran and Syria and as a result the conference could not make a decision on the issue.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF CHIEF BRIEFS PRESIDENT

LD111113 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] Our correspondent reports that Brigadier Zahirnezhad, chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, this morning met with Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council. During the meeting, the chief of the Joint Staff briefed the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council on military issues. Khamene'i also issued appropriate instructions on issues raised.

GOVERNMENT TO RETURN IRAQI WAR PRISONERS

LD112044 Tehran in English 1930 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran today announced that it will unilaterally deliver the Iraqi prisoners to the regime of that country. During the visit of the officials of the International Red Cross to the Iraqi war captives in one of the centers housing the prisoners, 32 Iraqi prisoners, in an interview with the reporters, while expressing satisfaction for the human and Islamic treatment of the Islamic Republic of Iran, praised it. One of the Iranian officials at the center housing the war captives, in connection with delivering the Iraqi prisoners said: As soon as the Iraqi regime announces its readiness for accepting these war prisoners they will be delivered by the International Red Cross to the Iraqi regime.

KORDESTAN'S BUKAN-MAHABAD ROAD REOPENED

LD111725 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] According to a report from the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters, while the Islamic combatants were achieving victory during the first phase of the Wal-Fajr operations, other Islamic combatants in the western sector of the country continued their mopping-up operations along the Bukan-Mahabad road and succeeded in completing the final stage of reopening the road. Consequently, they managed to clear this sensitive road which, since the beginning of the Islamic Revolution, was under the control of counterrevolutionary minigroups.

The rapid advance of Islamic combatants, aimed at liberating this axis, which culminated in considerable loss and damage to the enemy personnel and positions, portends the complete annihilation of the infidel rebels and the ever-increasing debilitation of the mercenaries dependent on world oppressors in the region. The headquarters called on all the repentant elements and the misled members of the minigroups who intend to join the Islamic forces to report to various revolution guards units in West Azarbayjan and Kordestan and return to the arms of Islam, resting assured that they will enjoy peace and security under Islam and the Islamic Republic.

ACTIONS AGAINST 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' VIEWED

LD082354 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Minister Rafiqdust, together with the governor general of West Azarbayjan, this morning, inspected the bases of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps and the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Urumiyeh-Soro axis and the mopped-up villages in this region.

In an interview with the Central News Unit correspondent in Urumiyeh, the minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, Brother Rafiqdust, announced that this spring -- the fifth spring of freedom since the revolution -- would be a spring of freedom for the whole region of West Azarbayjan and Kordestan from the paws of the mercenaries of America and Zionism.

Through the efforts of the combatants of the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada -- peace be upon him -- Headquarters and the region's militant people, the northwest region of the Islamic homeland of Iran would this spring be cleansed from the filth of counterrevolutionary elements.

Brother Rafiqdust told a Central News Unit correspondent on the Iranian-Turkish border in the Soro region:

[Begin recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Greetings to the imam of the nation and the martyr-nurturing nation and greetings to the zealous people of the West Azarbayjan Province. [Words indistinct] the government has chosen seven provinces which several ministers are commissioned to visit. They will contact the people of these provinces and deal with the people's problems so that, God willing, these provinces can become like the other provinces.

Dr Ghafuri-Fard, the energy minister, and I are commissioned to visit West Azarbayjan to inspect the region and to report to the Cabinet so that, God willing, its problems can be solved. One of the issues to be considered is the road from Urumiyeh to the Soro border. If, God willing, [words indistinct] and is repaired the heavy traffic of the Bazargan border will be (?reduced) and it will also be good for the Urumiyeh Province. [as heard] God willing, these issues will be pursued and [words indistinct]. [end recording]

In answer to the correspondent's question concerning his view on the operations carried out by the combatants of the Islamic Republic of Iran in this region and those carried out by the Hamzeh Headquarters, Brother Rafiqdust replied:

[Begin recording] Another issue which must be given attention is our goal at the national level for the thorough mopping up of this whole region from counterrevolutionaries. Our combative brothers are committed to eradicating the counterrevolution issue in this part of the Islamic homeland, God willing, this spring and the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada is in charge of this duty. As you know, the combatants have recently solved some of the problems by their repeated operations and, God willing, are ready to rout the rest of the counterrevolutionaries, who are on their last legs. To the region's Muslim nation, we promise that, God willing, this spring will be the spring of freedom for the whole region and its cleansing from the counterrevolution. [end recording]

## MINISTRY DENOUNCES POISONING OF PALESTINIANS

GF091756 Tehran IRNA in English 1543 GMT 9 Apr 83

[Text] Tehran, April 9, IRNA -- Foreign Affairs Ministry in a statement issued here today strongly denounced the savage crime of the agents of the Zionist regime in poisoning Palestinian schoolgirls in West Bank.

It further called on people of the world to take necessary measures to prevent the Zionist regime from repeating such inhuman crimes.

In another part of the statement it was said that the ministry has been highly concerned with the recent crime of the Zionist regime in occupied areas and was expecting the world public opinion to show a proper reaction to his genocidal act.

Unfortunately, the Zionist regime took advantage of absence of any such reaction and by using various excuses covered up its crime.

It is ironic that in an effort to wash its hands clean the Zionist regime has blamed Palestinians for poisoning their children. At the end the ministry once again pledged solidarity with the Muslim and militant Palestinians.

OIL MINISTER ON ECONOMIC TALKS WITH BANGLADESH

LD121158 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Unnamed correspondent's interview with Petroleum Minister Gharazi following the departure of the Bangladesh delegation at Mehrabad Airport on 12 April -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Would you please tell us about the outcome of the talks with the Bangladesh delegation that stayed in Tehran for 2 days.

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Iran's oil policy is based on changing the distribution of oil in the world in the interests of oppressed nations. Nations that cannot get oil at present would thus be able to obtain oil. That is why, as you see, we have dear guests from very oppressed countries. Our brother country of Bangladesh is the second Muslim country in the world with respect to populations. This delegation came, and we have concluded a 100,000-ton oil contract with these brothers. This is the beginning of relations between the two countries. God willing, we in the government will try to organize our economic relations with Bangladesh in such a way to enable us to import goods such as jute, tea, and other things discussed at the session in the presence of his excellency the president, so that our economic relations become strengthened and more organized.

Another point that the Oil Ministry has promised to follow up is that, just as we are sending a gas rig to Pakistan to start drilling for gas, we will take the necessary steps to tap their gas resources. This is one of the positive steps that can be taken between the two countries.

AFGHAN MUJAHIDIN CITED ON UN NEGOTIATIONS

LD111500 Tehran IRNA in English 0910 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] Tehran, April 11, IRNA -- AFGHAN ISLAMIC NEW AGENCY quoting eyewitnesses said that at least 35 Soviet forces were killed when Muslim Afghan majahideen attacked a military post of the Red Army in north of Afghanistan last Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Muslim Afghan mujahideen residing in Pakistan once again rejected resumption of indirect negotiations between Pakistan and Afghanistan under the U.N. supervision stressing that they would continue their fight until the complete expulsion of Soviet forces from their country.

In a statement released in this connection it was emphasised that there were two parties involved in this cause, the aggressive Soviet forces and people of Afghanistan who were fighting such an aggression. AFGHAN MUJAHIDEEN noted that holding any talks in the absence of satisfaction of Afghan people was not acceptable.

LATE REPORT: HASHEMI-RAFSANJANI ON WAR OPERATIONS

GF121258 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Majlis, spoke on the continuation of the victorious Wal Fajr operations at the Majlis open session today.

He said: In His exalted name. With due thanks to the noble warriors who commenced the first phase of the Wal Fajr operations for the establishment of truth and the crushing of the archcriminal of the region with what was necessary to be done [as heard], we announced the preliminary Wal Fajr operations, which were conducted on a limited scale and hoped that the Iraqi 'Aflaqites and the supporters of the reactionaries, the superpowers and their exploiters would pay attention to what we were telling them and act accordingly by choosing the right course of action. For this reason, we waited for a long time. The Wal Fajr operations were announced and our combatants crossed those strong Iraqi obstacles and proved that they are capable of such operations in every area. We announced that the only thing holding us back was the view of our nation and of our leader that we should refrain from a lot of bloodshed and casualties. The sin, the crime, the violation on the part of Saddam, is great. But we are still trying to refrain from bloodshed. However, we cannot ignore this cardinal sin, this tyranny against the area, our people, the people of Iraq, even if we want. All these martyrs, all these losses, all this waste of time, all these concomitant problems in the region are products of this imposed war.

The operations, which had been suspended for some time, were resumed in the hope that the world will pay attention and exert pressure to see that we secure our rights. Unfortunately, as we saw, it was (?fruitless). The powers interpreted these two attacks as our weakness and their pressures from other sources, even the pollution of the environment and excuses for bringing about a cease-fire in an inhuman and cowardly manner on the basis of contaminating the environment. [as heard] Even though we announced that we are always willing to repair the damaged wells, neither Iraq nor its supporters created the grounds for this, even at the expense of thirst and inconvenience of some countries.

We have, therefore, come to the conclusion that neither Iraq nor its supporters are ready to pay the rightful dues to the people of Iran, or the people of the region by exerting pressure on the aggressors. Therefore, we are forced to continue to pursue the path that we have initiated and the defense that is our right and is our people's right and we warn the world oppressors, the supporters of Iraq, that instead of applying pressure on the oppressed by forfeiting their rights, they should exert pressure on the aggressor, the tyrant and not to coerce us into obtaining our rights, our people's rights, and the rights of the area by force. We, more than anyone in the region, have interests in this region. And more than anyone else, we desire peace in the region. And more than anyone else in the region, we detest war. We showed this, but not so that the aggressor may become more bold and deprive the oppressed of their rights. Therefore, we ask the world to heed our just demands and we ask our people to be aware of this reality and, as before, they should remain on the fronts. We hope our combatants will continue their noble tasks as they have up to now so that, God willing, truth will triumph. [chants of death to the Soviet Union, Israel, others indistinct]